

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:
a message generator for:
generating a first message comprising an acknowledgement indicator and a rate control indicator, wherein the rate control indicator indicates at least whether a rate control command will be generated and issued; and
generating a second message conditioned on the rate control indicator indicating at least that the rate control command will be generated and issued.
2. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the second message comprises [[a]] the rate control command.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the rate control command is one of a plurality of values, wherein one or more of the plurality of values indicates a rate increase.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the rate control command is one of a plurality of values, wherein one or more of the plurality of values indicates a rate decrease.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the rate control command is one of a plurality of values, wherein one or more of the plurality of values indicates a rate hold.

6. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a receiver for receiving a packet;

a decoder for decoding the received packet; and

a message generator for:

generating a first signal comprising one of a first plurality of values, each value associated with an acknowledgement (ACK) or negative acknowledgement (NAK), and one or more of the values indicating at least whether a rate control command is to be issued; and

conditionally generating a second signal comprising one of a second plurality of values corresponding to a respective plurality of rate control commands, wherein the generating the second signal is conditioned on [[when]] the value of the first signal indicates a indicating at least that the rate control command is to be issued.

7. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising a transmitter for transmitting the first signal and conditionally transmitting the second signal, wherein the transmitting the second signal is conditioned on the value in the first signal indicating at least that the rate control command is to be issued.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the receiver is further operable to receive one or more transmission requests and one or more autonomous transmissions, the apparatus further comprising a scheduler for allocating a shared resource in response to the one or more transmission requests and the one or more autonomous transmissions.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the message generator further generates a grant message in response to a transmission request in accordance with the allocation.

10. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a receiver for receiving a first signal comprising a rate control indicator and conditionally receiving a second signal in accordance with [[a]] the rate control indicator when the rate control indicator indicates that a rate control command will be issued; and

a message decoder for decoding the rate control indicator from the received first signal.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the first signal comprises an acknowledgement.
12. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the second signal comprises ~~[[a]]~~ the rate control command.
13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the rate control command is one of a plurality of values, wherein one or more of the plurality of values indicates a rate increase.
14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the rate control command is one of a plurality of values, wherein one or more of the plurality of values indicates a rate decrease.
15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the rate control command is one of a plurality of values, wherein one or more of the plurality of values indicates a rate hold.
16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, further comprising a transmitter for transmitting a packet.
17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the transmitter retransmits the packet when the first signal indicates the transmitted packet is not acknowledged.
18. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the second signal comprises a rate control command, and the transmitter transmits a second packet at a rate determined in accordance with ~~[[a]]~~ the rate control command.

19. (Currently amended) A base station, comprising:

a message generator for:

generating a first message comprising an acknowledgement indicator and a rate control indicator, wherein the rate control indicator indicates at least whether a rate control command will be transmitted; and

conditionally generating a second message, wherein the generating the second message is conditioned on the rate control indicator indicating that the rate control command will be transmitted.

20. (Currently amended) A remote station, comprising:

a receiver for receiving a first signal comprising a rate control indicator and conditionally receiving a second signal in accordance with [[a]] the rate control indicator, wherein the receiving the second signal is conditioned on the rate control indicator indicating that a rate control command will be transmitted to the remote station; and

a message decoder for decoding the rate control indicator from the received first signal.

21. (Currently amended) A wireless communication system, including a base station, comprising:

a message generator for:

generating a first message comprising an acknowledgement indicator and a rate control indicator, wherein the rate control indicator indicates at least whether a rate control command will be generated; and

conditionally generating a second message, wherein the generating the second message is conditioned on the rate control indicator indicating that the rate control command will be generated.

22. (Currently amended) A wireless communication system, including a remote station, comprising:

a receiver for receiving a first signal comprising a rate control indicator and conditionally receiving a second signal in accordance with [[a]] the rate control indicator, wherein the receiving the second signal is conditioned on the rate control indicator indicating that a rate control command will be issued; and

a message decoder for decoding the rate control indicator from the received first signal.

23. (Currently Amended) A method for rate control, ~~embodied on a computer-readable storage medium~~, comprising:

employing at least one processor executing computer executable instructions stored on a computer readable storage medium to implement the following acts:

generating a first signal comprising one of a first plurality of values, each value associated with an acknowledgement (ACK) or negative acknowledgement (NAK), and one or more of the values indicating at least whether a rate control command will be generated and issued; and

conditionally generating a second signal comprising one of a second plurality of values corresponding to a respective plurality of rate control commands, the generating the second signal conditioned on [[when]] the value of the first signal indicates a indicating the rate control command will be generated and issued.

24.-39. (Cancelled).

40. (Currently amended) A method for rate control, comprising:

employing at least one processor executing computer executable instructions stored on a computer readable storage medium to implement the following acts:

receiving a first signal comprising one of a first plurality of values, each value associated with an acknowledgement (ACK) or negative acknowledgement (NAK), and one or more of the values indicating at least whether a rate control command is to be issued; and

conditionally receiving a second signal comprising one of a plurality of rate control commands, wherein the receiving the second signal is conditioned on [[when]] the value of the first received signal indicates a indicating the rate control command is to be issued.

41. (Currently amended) A method for rate control, comprising:

employing at least one processor executing computer executable instructions stored on a computer readable storage medium to implement the following acts:

transmitting a packet;

receiving a first signal indicating whether the transmitted packet was acknowledged and whether a rate control command will be issued; and

receiving a second signal comprising the rate control command when [[a]] the rate control command is issued, wherein the receiving the second signal is conditioned on the first signal indicating the rate control command will be issued.

42. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the first signal comprises one of a first plurality of values, one of the first plurality of values indicating an acknowledgement of correct decoding and no rate control command.

43. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein the value indicating an acknowledgement of correct decoding and no rate control command revokes a prior grant.

44. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the first signal comprises one of a first plurality of values, one of the first plurality of values indicating an acknowledgement of correct decoding and rate control command.

45. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the first signal comprises a value indicating no transmission corresponding to a negative acknowledgement of the decoded packet and no rate control command.
46. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the rate control command is one of a second plurality of values, wherein one or more of the second plurality of values indicates a rate increase.
47. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the rate control command is one of a second plurality of values, wherein one or more of the second plurality of values indicates a rate decrease.
48. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the rate control command is one of a second plurality of values, wherein one of the second plurality of values indicates a rate hold.
49. (Original) The method of claim 48, wherein the second signal comprises a value indicating no transmission for a rate hold.
50. (Original) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
retransmitting the packet when the first received signal indicates the transmitted packet was not acknowledged.
51. (Original) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
transmitting a second packet when the first received signal indicates the transmitted packet was acknowledged.
52. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the second packet is transmitted at a rate determined in accordance with the rate control command when a rate control command is received on the second signal.
53. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the transmitted packet is a subpacket.

54. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for generating a first signal comprising one of a first plurality of values, each value associated with an acknowledgement (ACK) or negative acknowledgement (NAK), and one or more values indicating at least whether a rate control command will be issued; and

means for conditionally generating a second signal comprising one of a second plurality of values corresponding to a respective plurality of rate control commands when the value of the first signal indicates [[a]] the rate control command will be issued.

55. (Currently amended) An apparatus for rate control, comprising:

means for receiving a packet;

means for decoding the packet;

means for generating a first signal indicating whether the received packet was decoded correctly and indicating whether a rate control command will be issued; and

means for generating a second signal comprising the rate control command when the first signal indicates [[a]] the rate control command [[is]] will be issued.

56. (Currently amended) An apparatus for rate control, comprising:

means for ~~receiving~~ transmitting a first signal comprising one of a first plurality of values, each value associated with an acknowledgement (ACK) or negative acknowledgement (NAK), and one or more of the values indicating whether a rate control command will be transmitted; and

means for ~~generating~~ transmitting a second signal comprising the rate control command, wherein the transmitting the second signal is conditioned on [[when]] the first signal indicating the [[a]] rate control command is issued will be transmitted.

57. (Currently amended) An apparatus for rate control, comprising:

means for transmitting a packet;

means for receiving a first signal indicating whether the transmitted packet was acknowledged and whether a rate control command will be issued; and

means for receiving a second signal comprising the rate control command when the first signal indicates the [[a]] rate control command [[is]] will be issued.

58. (Currently amended) A wireless communication system, comprising:

means for generating a first signal comprising one of a first plurality of values, each value associated with an acknowledgement (ACK) or a negative acknowledgement (NAK), and one or more of the values indicating at least whether a rate control command is to be issued; and

means for conditionally generating a second signal comprising one of a second plurality of values corresponding to a respective plurality of rate control commands when the value of the first signal indicates [[a]] the rate control command is to be issued.

59. (Currently amended) A wireless communication system, comprising:

means for receiving a first signal comprising one of a first plurality of values, each value associated with an acknowledgement (ACK) or negative acknowledgement (NAK), and one or more of the values indicating at least whether a rate control command is to be issued; and

means for conditionally receiving a second signal comprising one of a second plurality of values corresponding to a respective plurality of rate control commands when the value of the first received signal indicates [[a]] the rate control command is to be issued.

60. (Currently amended) Computer readable media containing a set of instructions which when executed perform the following [[steps]] acts:

generating a first signal comprising one of a first plurality of values, each value associated with an acknowledgement (ACK) or negative acknowledgement (NAK), and one or more of the values indicating at least whether a rate control command will be generated and transmitted; and

conditionally generating a second signal comprising one of a second plurality of values corresponding to a respective plurality of rate control commands, wherein the generating the second signal is conditioned on [[when]] the value of the first signal indicates a indicating the rate control command will be generated and transmitted.

61. (Currently amended) Computer readable media containing a set of instructions which when executed perform the following [[steps]] acts:

receiving a packet;

decoding the packet;

generating a first signal indicating whether the received packet was decoded correctly and indicating whether a rate control command will be issued; and

generating a second signal comprising the rate control command when the first signal indicates [[a]] the rate control command [[is]] will be issued.

62. (Currently amended) Computer readable media containing a set of instructions which when executed perform the following [[steps]] acts:

receiving a first signal comprising one of a first plurality of values, each value associated with an acknowledgement (ACK) or negative acknowledgement (NAK), and one or more of the values indicating at least whether a rate control command is to be received; and

conditionally receiving a second signal comprising one of a second plurality of values corresponding to a respective plurality of rate control commands, wherein the receiving the second signal is conditioned on [[when]] the value of the first received signal indicates a indicating the rate control command is to be received.

63. (Currently amended) Computer readable media containing a set of instructions which when executed perform the following [[steps]] acts:

transmitting a packet;

receiving a first signal indicating whether the transmitted packet was acknowledged and whether a rate control command will be issued; and

receiving a second signal comprising the rate control command, wherein the receiving the second signal is conditioned on the first signal indicating ~~when a~~ the rate control command [[is]] will be issued.

64. (Currently amended) A method for rate control, comprising:
employing at least one processor executing computer executable instructions stored on a computer readable storage medium to implement the following acts:
receiving a packet;
decoding the packet;
generating a first signal indicating whether the received packet was decoded correctly and indicating whether a rate control command will be issued; and
generating a second signal comprising the rate control command, wherein the generating the second signal is conditioned on the first signal indicating ~~when a~~ the rate control command ~~will be issued.~~ will be issued.
65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the first signal comprises one of a first plurality of values, one of the first plurality of values indicating an acknowledgement of correct decoding and no rate control command.
66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 65, wherein the value indicating an acknowledgement of correct decoding and no rate control command revokes a prior grant.
67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the first signal comprises one of a first plurality of values, one of the first plurality of values indicating an acknowledgement of correct decoding and a rate control command.
68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the first signal comprises a value indicating no transmission corresponding to a negative acknowledgement of the decoded packet and no rate control command.
69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the rate control command is one of a second plurality of values, wherein one or more of the second plurality of values indicates a rate increase.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the rate control command is one of a second plurality of values, wherein one or more of the second plurality of values indicates a rate decrease.
71. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the rate control command is one of a second plurality of values, wherein one of the second plurality of values indicates a rate hold.
72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 71, wherein the second signal comprises a value indicating no transmission for a rate hold.
73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, further comprising:
receiving one or more autonomous transmissions; and
allocating a shared resource in response to the one or more transmission requests and the one or more autonomous transmissions.
74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, further comprising generating a grant in response to a received transmission request.
75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74, wherein the second signal is not generated when the grant is generated.
76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, further comprising transmitting the first signal; and conditionally transmitting the second signal when a rate control command is issued.
77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76, further comprising transmitting the grant when a grant is issued.
78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the received packet is a subpacket.

79. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 78 wherein the decoding is performed in response to previously received corresponding subpackets, if any.